

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

EXCISE

241

CONFIDENTIAL

59-W
Action
SS

Info

Control: 4502
Ref: NOVEMBER 13, 1962
4:14 PM

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FROM: NEW YORK

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 1754, NOVEMBER 13, 4 PM

DEPARTMENT PASS WHITE HOUSE

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CUBA

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REVIEWED BY *J. B. [signature]* DATE *3/9/68*
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FOI, EO or PA exceptions *Jul 67*
TS authority to:
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111
[] SUGGESTED TO MISSION OFFICER THAT ONE MEANS MAINTAIN MOMENTUM RE CUBA, CAPITALIZE ON THEME OF SOVIET INTERVENTION (WHICH HE BELIEVES SHOULD RECEIVE HEAVY STRESS) AND PREPARE DEFENSIVE MEASURES AGAINST SABOTAGE, ETC. WOULD BE TO CONVENE OAS CONFERENCE AT DEFENSE MINISTERS' LEVEL POSSIBLY INCLUDING ALSO MINISTERS INTERIOR. WHILE SUCH A CONFERENCE, HE THINKS, MIGHT RESULT IN SPECIFIC NEW MEASURES FOR DEFENSE AGAINST SABOTAGE, POLITICAL PENETRATION, ETC., IT WOULD HAVE THE ADDED BENEFIT OF FOCUSING ATTENTION ON THE NEED TO DEFEND AGAINST THIS TYPE OF SOVIET PENETRATION THROUGH CUBA.

EMPHASIS OF SUCH CONFERENCE, HE THINKS, SHOULD BE ON DEFENSIVE ASPECTS. WHILE HE BELIEVES CASTRO AND SOVIET HAVE SUFFERED CONSIDERABLE PRESTIGE LOSS IN LA, HE THINKS WE MUST NOW BE CAREFUL NOT TO INDUCE A COUNTER-REACTION OF SYMPATHY FOR CASTRO AS UNDERDOG BY TAKING AGGRESSIVE, OFFENSIVE MEASURES AGAINST HIM.

S. EVENSON

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